

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE
INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
04 December 2003**

Ms. Bea Kephart called the Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB) Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting to order at 1000 hours. Ms. Kephart welcomed the CAB members and introduced Col Dave Thompson, the new Vice Wing Commander. Col Thompson was the former Chief of Safety on Vandenberg AFB. Dr. Roger Welt, CAB Co-Chair, welcomed the new vice commander and thanked all the CAB members for coming.

Ms. Kephart outlined the meeting's agenda:

- Installation Restoration Program Overview;
- Revised CAB Charter Approval;
- Site 9 Review/Field Trip; and
- Questions/Comments.

Installation Restoration Program Overview

Ms. Kephart reported on total program funding for fiscal year 2004 (FY04). FY04 includes funding for IRA-C or RA-C projects at Sites 3, 8, 15, 19, 23, 32, and 50. Other projects slated for FY04 consist of completing RI reports with ecological risk assessments, finishing FSs, and ROD/RAPs at multiple sites. Currently the IRP staff is preparing peer review packages for RA-C/IRA-C projects at Site 50, Site 15, and Site 19. Ms. Kephart also stated that Vandenberg should receive funding in 2005 for a basewide munitions response program.

Ms. Kephart informed the CAB of a pilot demonstration project concerning the removal of MTBE and other VOCs from fuels. This innovative pilot demonstration is being conducted at the base service station. A portable treatment unit was installed to treat groundwater using a concept of vacuum distillation. The testing of this system will be completed after 30 days. If successful, the system could prove to be an effective and efficient cleanup method. Vandenberg AFB is proud to participate in this new technology development for the treatment of MTBE and other VOCs.

Revised CAB Charter Approval

Ms. Linda Fargo, CAB Co-Chair and Document Review Subcommittee Chair presented an update on the revised CAB Charter, and specifically the final revision for membership approval. A draft charter was distributed at the last meeting and comments were solicited from the members. Comments from the members were received and incorporated into the final document. Ms. Fargo stated that the document review committee reviewed charters from other restoration advisory boards. She commented that Vandenberg AFB is unique in that they do not have the conflicts and problems that other bases contend with. A motion by Ms. Susan Warnstrom was made to adopt the revised charter. Mr. Joe Sesto seconded the motion, and the charter was approved. A copy of the revised CAB Charter was officially signed by Col Thompson, and Dr. Welt. Unsigned copies were provided to all CAB members.

Ms. Catherine Borgard representing Cabrillo High School recently applied for membership to the CAB. Ms. Susan Warnstrom made a motion to accept Ms. Borgard for membership, and Mr. Mel O'Campo second the motion. The members concurred and Ms. Borgard was nominated as the newest member of the CAB.

Site 9 Review/Field Trip

Ms. Amena Atta, 30 CES/CEVR, briefed the CAB about the Interim Removal Action at Site 9, Space Launch Complex 4-West. This site was used for launch activities prior to 1991. A chlorinated solvent known as TCE was used at this site to clean the rocket engines. Much of the TCE was dumped into flame buckets on the concrete pad. The solvent eventually leaked through the concrete and into the groundwater. Perchlorate, an ingredient in solid rocket propellant, was also detected in the ground water.

Ms. Atta discussed the details of the remedial system developed to treat TCE and remove perchlorate from the ground water at this site. A dual phase extraction system was constructed to treat the contamination found in soil and groundwater. TCE-contaminated ground water and soil vapors will be extracted and treated with carbon absorption. Following treatment for TCE, the groundwater is processed through an ion exchange system for the removal of perchlorate. After treatment, the clean ground water will be re-injected into the aquifer. Vapors will be processed through a granular activated carbon system.

Additionally, to contain the TCE plume found at this site, a horizontal well was installed 2 years ago. The well requires redevelopment because it is clogged, as it was idle for over two years. Following redevelopment, the horizontal well will be connected to treatment system of currently in operation. The immediate goal is to prevent the plume from reaching the cliff at this site. A site visit was conducted at Site 9 to further explain this sophisticated system and show the CAB members the progress made from the last field trip to this site.

Questions/Comments

Dr. Welt thanked the members for attending the meeting and the document review committee for finalizing the CAB charter. Col Thompson commented that it would be helpful if future presentations were presented in a less technical manner.

The next quarterly CAB meeting is scheduled for 4 March 2004 in the 30 MXG conference room. The meeting was adjourned at 1100 hours to allow time for the site visit.